

NOW YOU CAN MINT YOUR VERY OWN \$1.00 COIN

While visiting the Mint, make a few extra dollars on the way.

By you operating our fully functional coin press, circulation quality currency is produced before your very eyes.

It's a unique, first hand introduction to the workings of a modern mint—a fascinating experience for all ages.

Even more, you actually get to watch how we make coins for Australia. You'll see more money made in an hour than most of us make in a year!

Naturally, our coin collection is also quite large—dating from colonisation to the present day.

Look around and you'll discover the unusual Indian Gold Pagoda, which in 1790 could be used to pay for a meal or

double as a button.

Stranger still, when the colony nearly ran out of coins in 1813, Governor Macquarie's solution was to cut holes out of £10,000 worth of Spanish Dollars. Two coins were created, the Holey Dollar and the Dump, and the colony was saved.

Australia's first gold coins weren't struck until 1852 in the middle of the gold rush. These oddly shaped, but unofficial coins were known as Adelaide

Ingots and were used for a short time mostly in South Australia.

Take a look at the wide range of tokens made in the 1850's and 1860's by shopkeepers when there was another shortage of coins. Although technically illegal, they were over-looked by the authorities until more coins were made.

You'll also see some of our more interesting mistakes.

The 1930 penny, for example, is one coin you were never meant to see. Because of the Great Depression, a decision was made not to produce any pennies in that year. However, a die had already been prepared, and 3000 coins somehow escaped into circulation.

The mistake was not picked up for 10 years and currently these pennies,

in average condition, are worth around \$6000 each!

There are many surprises to be found at the Mint. See if you can spot the unusual key to the new Parliament House.



We keep a spare

one at the mint for safe keeping.

When you've finished exploring, a visit to the Coin Shop will reveal even more delights. Our friendly staff can show you a coin set that's illegal for 364 days of the year.

Along with dozens of other collectables, there's even coins that can tell the time!

When it's time to relax, take a break in our cafe. It's a perfectly delicious way to complete your tour, with a wide range of refreshments to suit your taste.

The Mint Visitor's Centre.

Where every coin has a tale or two.

OPENING HOURS

Weekdays: 9.00am-4.00pm (with factory operation)
Weekends and Public Holidays: 10.00am-4.00pm
(Gallery, visitors' coining presses and shop only)



